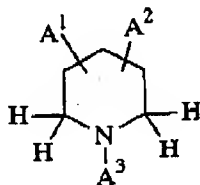


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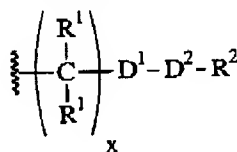
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 17. (Currently amended) A compound having the structure:



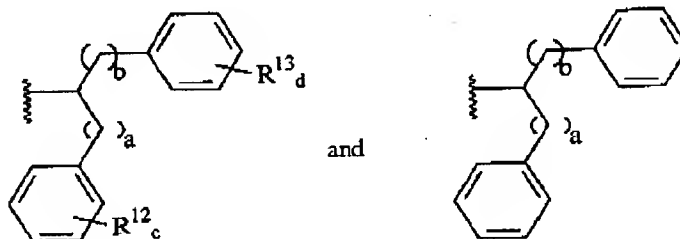
~~or an optical isomer, diastereomer, enantiomer, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or amide, ester, or imide susceptible to being cleaved in vivo by a mammalian subject to yield the compound, wherein:~~

- (a) A¹ and A² are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a group having the structure:



with the proviso that at A¹ and A² are not both hydrogen atoms, and wherein:

- (i) each R¹ is independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group;
- (ii) x is 0 or 1;
- (iii) each R² is independently selected from the group consisting of:



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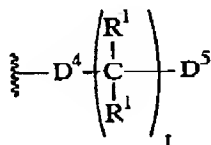
wherein:

- (a) a is at least 2;
- (b) b is at least 2;
- (c) c is 1 to 3;
- (d) d is 1 to 3; and
- (e) R^{12} and R^{13} are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbon groups and substituted hydrocarbon groups; and

~~(iv) D^4 and D^5 are each independently selected from the group consisting of $C(O)-$ and $-NH-$; with the proviso that wherein when D^4 is $-NH-$ then D^5 is $C(O)-$, and wherein when D^5 is $-NH-$ then D^4 is $C(O)-$; D^4 is $-C(O)-$; and~~

(v) D^2 is $-NH-$.

(b) A^3 has the structure:



wherein:

- (i) each R^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group;
- (ii) t is from 0 to 6;
- (iii) D^4 is $-CH(R^1)-$;
- (iv) D^5 is $-OR^6$; and
- (v) R^6 is selected from the group consisting of a carbocyclic group, a substituted carbocyclic group, an aromatic group, and a substituted aromatic group.

Claim 18. (Previously added) The compound according to Claim 17 wherein x is 1.

Claim 19. (Previously added) The compound according to claim 17 wherein x is 0. Claim 20.
 (Currently cancelled)

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Claim 21. (*Currently cancelled*)

Claim 22. (*Currently cancelled*)

Claim 23. (*Previously amended*) The compound according to Claim 17 wherein t is 0 to 2.

Claim 24. (*Previously added*) The compound according to Claim 17 wherein R⁶ is a substituted aromatic group.

Claim 25. (*Previously added*) A composition comprising:

- (a) the compound according to Claim 1; and
- (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 26. (*Previously added*) A method selected from the group consisting of treating multidrug resistance, inhibiting transport protein activity, combinations thereof, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment or inhibition an effective amount of the composition according to Claim 2.